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Department of State

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INCOMING TELEGRAM R

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ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 PM-09 OCT-02 /038 W

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COUNTRY. 102334 YV/NG/GONZALEZ/CN 11/1903Z MAY

EOT

VIOLENCE

R 111747Z MAY 81
FM FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PN
TO FBIS WASHDC
USSCCC QUARRY HTS PN//SCJ2 SCSA//
INFO COMANTDEFCOM ROOSEVELT ROADS PR
CDR 4TH PSYOP GROUP FT BRAGG NC
USAFSO/IN HOWARD AFB PN
CDR 470TH MI GP FT CLAYTON PN
NAVSTA PANAMA CANAL RODMAN PN
COR 193D INF BDE FT CLAYTON PN
STORAGE CENTER FBIS WASHDC
VOA WASHDC
NAVAL SECURITY GROUP ACTIVITY GALETA ISLAND PN
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR ES //INFO LANE, PAO//
SECSTATE WASH DC //FOR ARA/CEN/ES//
ICA WASH DC
FBPA

UNCLAS

EL SALVADOR: FMLN STAGES ATTACKS; MORE U.S. HELICOPTERS SOUGHT

PA111747

PANAMA CITY ACAN IN SPANISH 2334 GMT 10 MAY 81

((TEXT)) SAN SALVADOR, 10 MAY (ACAN-EFE)--IN THE PAST FEW HOURS THE FARABUNDO MARTI NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT ((FMLN)) LEFTISTS OF EL SALVADOR OCCUPIED A CANTON IN TECOLUCA, SAN VICENTE DEPARTMENT, KIDNAPPED TWO CIVILIAN PATROLMEN AND ATTACKED SEVERAL GARRISONS IN THE WESTERN SANTA ANA DEPARTMENT.

ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL REPORTS, DURING A FEW HOURS A GROUP OF FMLN GUERRILLAS OCCUPIED SAN EMILIO CANTON IN TECOLUCA AND HELD A MEETING TO ASK THE TOWNSPEOPLE TO JOIN THEIR RANKS. AFTERWARDS, THEY KIDNAPPED TWO MEMBERS OF THE TOWN'S CIVIL DEFENSE FORCE FROM THEIR HOMES.

UP TO NOW THE FATE OF THE TWO KIDNAPPED PATROLMEN IS UNKNOWN.

IN THE VICINITY OF SAN VICENTE DEPARTMENT, THE GUERRILLAS ATTACKED A GROUP OF SECURITY AGENTS ON DUTY ON THE BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER ACAHUAPA. THERE WERE SEVERAL WOUNDED IN THE ENSUING CLASH.

IN SANTA ANA, 66 KM WEST OF SAN SALVADOR, MORE THAN 50 LEFTISTS ATTACKED THE GARRISONS OF THE TREASURY AND CUSTOMS POLICE AND THE 2ND INFANTRY BRIGADE FOR MORE THAN 1 HOUR.

THE SOURCES DISCLOSED THAT AFTER THE ATTACK, HEAVY SHOOTING WAS HEARD IN SEVERAL PARTS OF THE CITY AS GOVERNMENT FORCES CHASED THE REBELS.

SEVERAL PERSONS WHO WERE WOUNDED IN THE SHOOTINGS WERE GIVEN MEDICAL CARE AT THE SOCIAL SERVICE INSTITUTIONS TODAY.

TWO PERSONS WERE WOUNDED AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE SAME DEPARTMENT WHEN ARMED YOUTHS, WHO DID NOT HEED A COMMAND TO HALT, EXCHANGED FIRE WITH SECURITY AGENTS.

COL RAFAEL FLORES LIMA, THE ARMED FORCES CHIEF OF STAFF, IN A RECENT PRESS CONFERENCE SAID THAT THE SITUATION IN EASTERN MORAZAN DEPARTMENT WAS DIFFICULT AND THAT FACE-TO FACE CLASHES BETWEEN THE ARMY AND THE GUERRILLAS WERE TAKING PLACE.

CONCERNING THE FLOODS AND HEAVY RAINS REGISTERED IN THAT AREA, HE SAID THAT THEY AFFECTED BOTH THE SALVADORAN ARMY AND THE GUERRILLAS, BUT THAT THE ARMED FORCES WERE PREPARED TO OVERCOME ALL KINDS OF OBSTACLES.

MEANWHILE, DEFENSE MINISTER COL JOSE GUILLERMO GARCIA STATED THAT ALTHOUGH THE ARMY HAS ENOUGH AIR SUPPORT, IT HAS ASKED THE UNITED STATES FOR MORE HELICOPTERS.

HE ALSO CALLED ON ALL THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE U.S. SUPPLY OF ARMS TO EL SALVADOR TO DO THE SAME OF THE COUNTRIES WHO ARE SUPPLYING ARMS TO THE GUERRILLA GROUPS OPERATING IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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